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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Merel Epstein Group Art Unit: 3728
Serial Number: 09 / 603,222 Examiner: Jila Mohandesi
Filing Date: June 26, 2000
Title: BALANCING APPLIANCE FOR FOOTWEAR ITEM

REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Reply is in response to an Examiner's Action (Paper No. 8, dated May 11, 2001), a final action of all claims pending in this application.

In response to the Examiner's Action, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amendment of Claim 1 is requested. A "clean" version incorporating the requested amendments is shown herein below and a marked up copy entitled "Marked-Up Version of Amended Claim" is attached hereto as a separate page.

1. (TWICE AMENDED) A balancing disc for securement to an orthotic foot device, the disc comprising:

a substantially rigid, circular wedge-shaped member having a planar top surface and a planar bottom surface, the surfaces being inclined at an angle with respect to each other, one of said surfaces being securable to the orthotic foot device at a desired location of said foot device and the wedge shape of the disc angularly oriented at any desired angle from 0° to 360° about a vertical axis through the center of the disc to effect a desired balance and weight distribution.